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Sweet Briar

degree?



Kathy Kavanagh '74

Looking ahead
to Jobs and Careers

SWEET BRIAR COLLEGE
SWEET BRIAR, VIRGINIA

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SWEET BRIAR COLLEGE

In today's world . . . almost anything you want to do.

PERHAPS you have always known that you want to be a doctor. Or a lawyer. Or a teacher. For whatever professional training is required, a sound education in the liberal arts is the best preparation. This is where Sweet Briar College excels. Among her graduates not long out of college are a physician serving in the emergency room of an urban hospital; an associate attorney general in North Carolina; a college professor of drama; a teacher of retarded children.

Other recent graduates, with advanced degrees or some professional training, have found jobs in a wide variety of fields. For example: Art editor at a university press. Historical researcher and instructor, Columbia University. Environmental engineer for a sewage treatment plant. Staff nurse in pediatrics at a university hospital. Church organist and choir director. Reference librarian, Harvard Business School. Multi-lingual secretary with an international corporation. Physical therapist. Assistant curator of decorative arts, Cooper-Hewitt Museum. Child psychologist. Research biologist, working in genetics. Assistant vice-president, First National City Bank, New York. Officer and computer programmer, U. S. Air Force. The list is long, the activities are many. Too long and too varied to cite here. These examples indicate their scope.

Q. But I don't know what I want to do; can I find an interesting job after I graduate?

A great many Sweet Briar graduates do. If you are undecided, you are not alone. But the knowledge and skills you will gain in four years of liberal arts studies will help you decide. They become a foundation for immediate usefulness in countless jobs. They are basic requirements, sought by many employers.

Finding the right occupation is seldom easy. Sometimes it takes several years and a number of trial jobs. Five job-changes in your lifetime will be normal.

The most satisfying work may be very different from your original expectation. It may have no direct relation to your major studies in college. Or it may be a continuation of your academic concentration.

Keep an open mind about your future. Experiment in different kinds of work. Don't get locked-in on a career choice which may prove to be utterly wrong for you.



newspaper reporter

Cookie Snyder



Richard Linfield

math teacher



Northrop Corp.

test-engineer



Med. Photo U. Va.

pediatrician

Q. Are Sweet Briar graduates hired without specialized training?

One 1972 graduate supplied this answer: "Not any courses I took, but my education as a whole has been helpful in giving me a varied background. Employers seem to be looking for very broad backgrounds, rather than specialization."

The winner of a prized Watson Foundation Fellowship, a 1971 graduate went to Australia to pursue research in marine biology. Working on the Great Barrier Reef and at Queensland Technical Institute, she was soon appointed to the faculty, to teach introductory biology. As a limnologist-ecologist, she is now on the staff of a consulting firm which conducts environmental-impact surveys of proposed major developments, for government and for industry.

A 1972 graduate, married and living in Paris, began as a translator for a firm of business consultants. When there was an opening for a tax specialist, she was appointed. With on-job training, she became the only woman professional in the office. Her major was French, with a year of study in Sweet Briar's Junior Year in France program.

A biology major in the Class of '73 began working as a research assistant at the Yale Medical School a few weeks after she finished her college course in January.

Other recent graduates went from Sweet Briar into: banking, investments, computer programming, public school music teaching, educational television, art museum work, freelance photography, merchandising, advertising.

They found positions as systems analyst or systems engineer; Jack-of-all trades for TV serial program; newspaper feature writer; travel agent, American Express Co.; airline stewardess; campaign manager for a Congressman; head of riding department in a junior college; audio materials specialist in a university library; engineer, Test Department, Northrop Corp.; editorial assistant, University of Chicago Press; research assistant for a Senate committee; actress, Neighborhood Playhouse.

Q. What can I do while I'm in college to prepare for after-graduation?

Advice to undergraduates from those just out of Sweet Briar includes: attend programs sponsored by the Career Planning Committee; talk with representatives of business and professions who visit the campus to present job opportunities; study catalogs, pamphlets and other material available in the Career Planning Office; consult the Director of Career Planning, your adviser, your professors, and other staff members; learn to type; get a self-help job on campus; try various kinds of work during summers or Winter term; study the job market before graduation.

Q. I want to go to graduate school; how can I pay my way?

If a fellowship or teaching assistantship is out of reach or doesn't cover your expenses, you may decide to work for a year or two before returning to studies. Or you may take a part-time job to carry you over the financial hump.

Q. What about recommendations?

Because Sweet Briar is small, professors know their students as individuals. They can assess their abilities fairly. This is an important advantage, Sweet Briar graduates have found, when personal recommendations are needed for graduate school or job applications.

Q. Will marriage rule out a career?

They are by no means mutually exclusive. In fact, many Sweet Briar graduates combine the two with outstanding success. Take into account, however, some limiting factors: where you live, what your husband does, how much time you have for work outside your home. Circumstances may not make a full-time job feasible, but wherever you are, you can always find interesting work as a volunteer. Or you may be able to take special courses to prepare for future employment.

Q. What does Sweet Briar offer?

Sweet Briar is an independent four-year liberal arts college for women. Its curriculum includes 25 departmental and six inter-departmental major study programs, with the additional option of self-designed majors focused on a particular topic or field of interest.

This college is a place where young women explore new interests, make new friends with whom to argue and discuss new ideas, and develop their intellectual and creative abilities.

Sweet Briar may well be the college for YOU!

For further information and an appointment for an interview, write to:

Director of Admission
Sweet Briar College
Sweet Briar, Virginia 24595



Glenn Showalter

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